P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

Phone: (703) 205-8000

(703) 205-8050 (703) 698-8590 (GIV) Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

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PATENT

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

KATSUNORI KANEKO et al.

Appl. No.:

09/188,190

Group:

3748

Filed:

November 10, 1998

Examiner: T. Nguyén

For:

EXHAUST GAS PURIFYING APPARATUS OF AN INTERNAL

COMBUSTION ENGINE

DRAFT REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Due: November 6, 2001

Sir:

This is a reply to the Office Action mail August 6, 2001.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

(Twice Amended) An exhaust gas purifying apparatus of an internal combination engine, comprising:

exhaust gas purifying means, provided in an exhaust passage of the internal combustion engine, for absorbing NOx in exhaust gas when an air-fuel ratio of the exhaust gas is lean, and means for releasing or reducing the absorbed NOx when an oxygen concentration of the exhaust gas is reduced;